

**NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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## **The Woodlands Township adopts Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan**

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (October 28, 2016) – The Woodlands Township Board of Directors held a regular meeting Wednesday, October 26, 2016, at The Woodlands Township Town Hall, 2801 Technology Forest Boulevard, at 6 p.m.

The Woodlands Township Board of Directors held a public hearing during the meeting regarding the draft Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan. After receiving a presentation from Jones and Carter on the updated plan which removed shared use paths along greenbelts and drainage easements, the Board received numerous comments from the public.

A motion was accepted to adopt the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan with a provisional modification to further evaluate side paths leading to the Sterling Ridge and Sawdust Park and Ride facilities. The Board authorized staff to move forward with the short-term plan recommendations including wayfinding projects for the pathway system and potential on-road facilities.

In other business, the Board of Directors took the following actions on the Consent Agenda:

- Approved proclamations in support and recognition of Veterans Day on November 11, 2016, and America Recycles Day on November 12, 2016.
- Awarded a Certificate of Honor to Jim Braden in recognition of his being a competitive runner, activist and inspirational role model.
- Approved a Venue Sponsorship Agreement with the South Montgomery County YMCA for the use of Northshore Park for the annual Dragon Boat Race Team Challenge.
- Adopted the 2017 rental fees and operating schedule for The Woodlands Township Riva Row Boat House, Lakes Edge Boat House and Recreation Center.



- Approved the 2017 holiday operating schedule for The Woodlands Express Park and Ride service.
- Authorized the release of a Request for Proposals for curbside textile recycling services.
- Awarded a bid to McKenna Contracting for the development of a natural surface trail in Shadowbend Park.
- Adopted a resolution supporting a bid submittal to host the 2019 Texas Recreation and Parks Society (TRAPS) Annual Institute and Expo.
- Adopted a resolution establishing guidelines and criteria for considering tax abatement agreements by The Woodlands Township.
- Accepted a proposal from Burditt Landplace Consultants to provide master planning services for Bear Branch Park. The public input aspect of the master plan will take place in November and December and plans will be presented to the Board in February and March 2017.

The Board of Directors then took the following actions on the Regular Agenda:

- Authorized the transfer of monies from the Transportation Fund and the Capital Contingency Account to establish a Parks and Recreation Capital Projects Fund for the 2016 budget year, and authorized the utilization of the Fund for the purchase of real property from the YMCA.
- Received and accepted a report regarding recent roadway noise measurements conducted by Township staff.
- Approved the Service Agreement renewal with The Woodlands Area Economic Development Partnership with the provision that the Partnership's CEO will confer with the Township Board of Directors before authorizing resolutions on matters with direct impact on The Woodlands Township.
- Accepted a report from the Transportation Manager relating to the Town Center Trolley service as requested by Director John McMullan. The Board directed staff to establish performance standards for future evaluation of the viability and value of the trolley service.



- Received and accepted the September 2016 financial report for The Woodlands Township.
- Approved property, liability and workers' compensation insurance rates for the period of January 1, 2017, through January 1, 2018.
- Received and accepted a quarterly update on Law Enforcement.
- Tabled matters relating to incorporation questions to be added to the Township website, as requested by Director John McMullan, to the November 30, 2016, Board of Directors meeting.
- Tabled matters relating to the delay of Board meeting agenda items when support materials are pending, as requested by Director Mike Bass, to a January 2017 Board of Directors meeting.
- Tabled a request from Director Gordy Bunch to distribute an official Township press release regarding incorporation and tax matters.

The entire meeting can be watched on video at The Woodlands Township website. For more information on The Woodlands Township, please visit [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov), or call 281-210-3800.